

48 INT. WHITE HOUSE - WEST WING - NIGHT

HAMILTON JORDAN, 40s, Carter's White House Chief of Staff, comes up stairs, trailed by AIDES. Jordan is forty, Southern.

BUTLER (O.S.) Off Camera Dialogue

They're claiming the embassy was a 'den of -- '

JORDAN

We wish it was the fucking Den of Espionage. C.I. had three people there, didn't see a revolution coming? I'd call that something other than intelligence --

49 INT. CHIEF OF STAFF'S OFFICE - NIGHT

There are already maps of Iran on easels in here. The big three plus foreign networks on silent televisions. LANDON BUTLER, 30s, Jordan's Deputy Chief of Staff, is on the phone.

> SECRETARY (into a phone) Parenthetical Direction Hold for the Chief of Staff (holds out the phone to Jordan) Hodding --

JORDAN Dual Dialogue BUTLER They're sticking to it. No (to Secretary) I'll call him back.' release till we expel the shah.

Jordan sinks into his chair, putting his feet up on the desk.

JON TITTERTON, 30s, an aide to Jordan --

TITTERTON

Put him on a plane. Fuck him.

JORDAN

He's half dead and he's in chemo.

BUTLER

We took him in. He's ours now.

TITTERTON

So we'll take in any prick as long as he's got cancer?

(CONTINUED)

49

Scene Number

58

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - A FEW MINUTES LATER

58

They enter to find: ADAM ENGELL, 40s or 50s, Deputy Chief of Operations, hosting visitors from the State Department: PENDER and BATES from State. The State guys are both dressed better than the CIA guys, except for Engell.

Other CIA Operations OFFICERS and ANALYSTS sit in audience.

ENGELL

Okay. This is Bob Pender from State O.S. He's been talking to Morgan at ExtAff.

GENCO, a State Department Assistant, removes a drape from the photographs of SIX FACES, State Department I.D. photos. Pender indicates the first two photos -- and during this, we may flash to scenes of the Housequests in the Canadian ambassador's residence --

PENDER

Mark and Cora Lijek, 29 and 25. He's a consular officer and she's an assistant. Newlyweds. They just got there a couple of months ago. No language skills or incountry knowledge.

(re: the next photo) Parenthetical Direction Henry Lee Schatz. Agricultural attache from Idaho. He was there to sell U.S. tractors to Iranian agro. Hid out with the Swedes during the takeover then made his way to join the others with the Canadians.

(re: next photo) Joe Stafford. Late twenties. He's smart and a climber. Speaks Farsi. Arranged the hire of his wife Kathy --

BATES

Understaffed so the faculty wives were the typing pool.

That goes without comment in this room of men.

PENDER

(then, finally)

Bob Anders. Senior consular officer, oldest of the group. Most likely to be group leader.

So.

(MORE)

Scene Continues on next page

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PENDER (CONT'D) This dialogue is continued from the previous page

19.

(now, shifting gears) What we like for this are bicycles. We've identified backroads from the Shemiran district -- a couple of rat lines through the mountains to the crossing at Tabriz. Cars are off the table because of the roadblocks.

Pender nods to Bates, who goes to a map, indicating the north of Iran.

BATES

We wait till the weather clears up then we deliver six bikes and provide maps to the Turkish border.

PENDER

We have intelligence they can ride bicycles. Or we're prepared to send in somebody to teach them.

The professional spies shifting at the stupidity of it. But nobody speaks up. And then --

MENDE7

You can send in training wheels and wait at the border with Gatorade.

Attention turns to Mendez. O'Donnell shifts. Engell, not happy.

MENDE 7

It's 300 miles to the Turkish crossings. They'd need a support crew behind them with a tire pump.

– Dual Dialogue — ENGELL

PENDER

(directed at Mendez) We've only been asked to

sharpshoot this, State's

handling the op.

O'DONNELL

Tony's an exfil spesh. He got a lot of the shah's people out after the fall.

Who is --